

Requirements for Small Systems on Quarterly Monitoring

WHO DOES THIS FACTSHEET APPLY TO?

GROUND WATER PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS (PWSs) THAT SERVE 1,000 OR FEWER PEOPLE and collect at least one routine total coliform (TC) SAMPLE QUARTERLY.

RTCR

What to Do?

Step 1

Develop/update your sample siting plan.

Step 2

Collect your drinking water samples.

Step 3

Conduct required actions.

Additional RTCR information available on the RTCR website:

- Requirements for Small Systems on Quarterly/Annual Monitoring
- Montana Seasonal System Guidance Document and Checklist Form
- Repeat Monitoring Requirements for Small Systems
- RTCR Assessment and Corrective Action Guidance Document, Level 1 Assessment Form, Level 1 & Level 2 Assessments and Corrective Actions Factsheet

FOR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR STATE:

RTCR WEBSITE:
[HTTP://DEQ.MT.GOV/WATER/PWSUB/PWS/RTCR](http://deq.mt.gov/water/pws/sub/pws/rtcr)

DEPT.: DEQ PWS PROGRAM

PHONE: (406) 444-4400

EMAIL: DEQRTCRLEVEL12@MT.GOV

ATTENTION!

All PWSs must comply with the RTCR requirements starting April 1, 2016.

STEP 1: DEVELOP/UPDATE YOUR SAMPLE SITING PLAN*

- **DEVELOP A SAMPLE SITING PLAN AND SUBMIT IT TO DEQ.** If you already have a sample siting plan in use for the Total Coliform Rule (TCR), update this plan to meet the requirements of the RTCR. Forms are available at the RTCR website:
[HTTP://DEQ.MT.GOV/WATER/PWSUB/PWS/RTCR](http://deq.mt.gov/water/pws/sub/pws/rtcr)
- **INCLUDE YOUR ROUTINE COLLECTION SCHEDULE:** For example, the first Monday of every calendar quarter between Jan. 1 – March 31, April 1 – June 30, July 1 – Sept. 30, and Oct. 1 – Dec. 31.
 - **LIST THE LOCATIONS WHERE YOU WILL TAKE YOUR SAMPLES (ROUTINE AND REPEAT):** The sample location that is used for GWR triggered source water monitoring must also be designated. Include a map or diagram of your system indicating the sampling points.
 - **UPDATE TO REFLECT CHANGES AT YOUR PWS:** The sample siting plan is a living document and should be updated to reflect changes at your PWS such as: major changes in population; a new or additional water source; infrastructure changes, such as a change in the distribution system (i.e. extended/abandoned lines) or pressure zones; or, changes in disinfection or other treatment.

STEP 2: COLLECT YOUR DRINKING WATER SAMPLES

KNOW YOUR RTCR ROUTINE SAMPLING REQUIREMENTS.

Find your sample schedule at Montana Drinking Water Watch:
<http://sdwisdww.mt.gov:8080/DWW/>

COLLECT AT LEAST ONE 100 ML routine drinking water sample every quarter, starting April 1, 2016.

- **IMMEDIATELY SEND YOUR SAMPLE TO A STATE-CERTIFIED LAB** that performs total coliform drinking water analysis.
 - Remember the lab must begin analyzing the drinking water sample no later than the 30th hour from the collection time.
 - If necessary, ship the sample overnight and refrigerate or ice the sample using “blue” ice (cooled to about 4° to 10° C). **Do not allow the sample to freeze.**

NOTE

* The sample siting plan is subject to review and revisions by the Montana DEQ Drinking Water Program.

STEP 3: CONDUCT ACTIONS REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF YOUR SAMPLING

